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(71) Applicant (<i>for all designated States except US</i>): ALGOS PHARMACEUTICAL CORPORATION [US/US]; Collingwood Plaza, 4900 Route 33, Neptune, NJ 07753 (US).		Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>	
(72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (<i>for US only</i>): CARUSO, Frank, S. [US/US]; 2 Bowling Green, Colts Neck, NJ 07722 (US). MINN, Fredrick, L. [US/US]; 601 Midway Lane, Blue Bell, PA 19422 (US). LYLE, John, W. [US/US]; 28 Inlet Terrace, Belmar, NJ 07719 (US).			
(74) Agents: DILWORTH, Peter, G. et al.; Dilworth & Barrese, 333 Earle Ovington Boulevard, Uniondale, NY 11553 (US).			

(54) Title: ANTICONVULSANT CONTAINING COMPOSITION FOR TREATING NEUROPATHIC PAIN

(57) Abstract

Composition for alleviating neuropathic pain which a neuropathic pain-alleviating amount of an anticonvulsant is combined with an anticonvulsant-potentiating amount of a nontoxic antagonist, or blocker, for the N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor or nontoxic substance that blocks a major intracellular consequence of NMDA receptor activation.

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5 ANTICONVULSANT CONTAINING COMPOSITION FOR TREATING NEUROPATHIC PAIN

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to a composition and method for alleviating neuropathic pain. More particularly, this
10 invention is directed to a composition and method for alleviating neuropathic pain in which a neuropathic pain-alleviating amount of an anticonvulsant is combined with an anticonvulsant-potentiating amount of a nontoxic antagonist, or blocker, for the N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor or
15 nontoxic substance that blocks a major intracellular consequence of NMDA receptor activation.

Neuropathic pain is pain that is due to functional abnormalities of the nervous system. Fields, "Pain", McGraw-Hill, Inc. (1987), pp. 133 et seq. There are a
20 variety of possible mechanisms by which nerve dysfunction can cause neuropathic pain: hyperactivity in primary afferent or central nervous system (CNS) nociceptive neurons, loss of central inhibitory connections, and increased activity in sympathetic efferents. Neuropathic
25 pain typically occurs following injury to elements of the nervous system involved in nociception, such as peripheral nerve injury, in which the lesions deafferent the nociceptive pathway, the resultant pain sometimes being referred to deafferentation pain. Neuropathic pain is much
30 more likely to occur with peripheral than with central nervous system damage. Examples of causes of painful nerve injury are: accidental trauma, tumors, cervical or lumbar spine disease, and surgical procedures. These injuries

usually involve one or two peripheral nerves or nerve roots, and the pain is felt in the body region normally innervated by the damaged nerves. Additionally, there are also toxic, metabolic, and hereditary causes of painful polyneuropathies, e.g., alcohol abuse, diabetes mellitus. These tend to be symmetrical and are most severe on the distal limbs.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with the present invention, a drug composition is provided which comprises a neuropathic pain-alleviating amount of at least one anticonvulsant in combination with an anticonvulsant-potentiating amount of at least one nontoxic antagonist for the NMDA receptor or nontoxic substance that blocks a major intracellular consequence of NMDA receptor activation.

Further in accordance with the present invention, a method of alleviating neuropathic pain is provided which comprises administering to a mammal exhibiting neuropathic pain (a) a neuropathic pain-alleviating amount of at least one anticonvulsant and (b) an anticonvulsant-potentiating amount of at least one nontoxic antagonist for the NMDA receptor or nontoxic substance that blocks a major intracellular consequence of NMDA receptor activation with (a) being administered prior to, with or following the administration of (b).

The expression "N-methyl-D-aspartate receptor" shall be understood to include all of the binding site subcategories associated with the NMDA receptor, e.g., the glycine-binding site, the phenylcyclidine (PCP)-binding site, etc., as well as the NMDA channel. Thus, the invention herein contemplates the use of nontoxic substances

that block an NMDA receptor binding site, e.g., dextrophan, or the NMDA channel, e.g., a source of magnesium such as magnesium sulfate.

The term "nontoxic" as used herein shall be
5 understood in a relative sense and is intended to designate
any substance that has been approved by the United States
Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") for administration to
humans or, in keeping with established regulatory criteria
and practice, is susceptible to approval by the FDA for
10 administration to humans. The term "nontoxic" is also used
herein to distinguish the NMDA receptor antagonists, or
blockers, that are useful in the practice of the present
invention from NMDA receptor antagonists such as MK 801 (the
15 compound 5-methyl-10,11-dihydro-SH-dibenzo[a,d] cyclohepten-
5,10-imine), CPP (the compound 3-[2-carboxypiperazin-4-yl]
propyl-1-phosphonic acid) and PCP (the compound 1-(1-
phenylcyclohexyl)piperidine) whose toxicities effectively
preclude their therapeutic use.

The expression "neuropathic pain-alleviating"
20 shall be understood herein to include the expressions
"neuropathic pain-suppressing" and "neuropathic pain-
inhibiting" as the invention is applicable to the
alleviation of existing neuropathic pain as well as the
suppression or inhibition of neuropathic pain which would
25 otherwise ensue from an imminent neuropathic pain-causing
event.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Any of the pain-alleviating anticonvulsants can be
30 used herein. For extensive listings of anticonvulsants,
see, e.g., Goodman and Gilman's "The Pharmaceutical Basis Of

"Therapeutics", 8th ed., McGraw-Hill, Inc. (1990), pp. 436-462, and "Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences", 17th ed., Mack Publishing Company (1985), pp. 1075-1083. Specific neuropathic pain-alleviating anticonvulsants that can be
5 used herein include lamotrigine, gabapentin, valproic acid, topiramate, famotodine, phenobarbital, diphenylhydantoin, phenytoin, mephenytoin, ethotoin, mephobarbital, primidone, carbamazepine, ethosuximide, methsuximide, phensuximide, trimethadione, benzodiazepine, phenacemide, acetazolamide,
10 progabide, clonazepam, divalproex sodium, magnesium sulfate injection, metharbital, paramethadione, phenytoin sodium, valproate sodium, clobazam, sulthiame, dilantin, diphenylan and L-5-hydroxytryptophan.

Among the nontoxic substances that block the NMDA receptor and as such are useful for potentiating the neuropathic pain-alleviating activity of the anticonvulsant in accordance with this invention are dextromethorphan ((+)-3-hydroxy-N-methylmorphinan), its metabolite dextrorphan ((+)-3-hydroxy-N-methylmorphinan), amantadine (1-amino
20 adamantine), memantine (3,5 dimethylaminoadamantone), their mixtures and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts. Other useful nontoxic substances that block the NMDA receptor include pyrroloquinoline quinone and cis-4-(phosphono-methyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid.

In addition to, or in place of, a blocker for the NMDA receptor, at least one nontoxic substance that blocks a major intracellular consequence of NMDA receptor activation can also be used. Activation of the NMDA receptor, a subtype of excitatory amino acid receptors, induces a number
25 of changes in the functional activity of nerve cells and, in particular, their capacity for excitability or inhibition in

the presence of an addictive substance via an increase in intracellular Ca⁺⁺ concentration. The major consequences of NMDA receptor activation include the following sequences, or cascades, of events occurring within nerve cells:

5 a) translocation and activation of protein kinases such as protein kinase C → phosphorylation of substrate proteins such as cytosolic enzymes, channel proteins, receptor proteins, etc. → changes in functional activity;

10 b) initiation of early gene (*c-fos*, *c-jun*, *zif268*, etc.) expression by either increased intracellular Ca⁺⁺ or Ca⁺⁺-activated protein kinases → expression of functional genes responsible for production of cellular enzymes (such as protein kinases), receptor proteins (such as the NMDA receptor), ion channel proteins (such as K⁺, Na⁺, Ca⁺⁺ channels), neuropeptides (such as dynorphin), etc. → changes in functional activity;

15 c) Ca⁺⁺/calmodulin (or other Ca⁺⁺ binding proteins) induced activation of enzymes and other cellular components → activation of Ca⁺⁺/calmodulin-protein kinase systems such as Ca⁺⁺/calmodulin kinase II → autophosphorylation of enzymes (e.g., Ca⁺⁺/calmodulin kinase II) or other functional proteins → changes in functional activity;

20 d) Ca⁺⁺/calmodulin induced activation of constitutive nitric oxide synthase as well as induction of inducible nitric oxide synthase → production of nitric oxide → i) production of cyclic guanosine monophosphate via activation of guanosine cyclase resulting in activation of protein kinases and early gene expression; ii) direct protein modification such as enzymes, receptor and/or

channel proteins; iii) lipid membrane modification and/or nucleic acid modification via scavenge of free radicals; iv) induction of neurotoxicity at higher nitric oxide levels; v) retrograde actions in adjacent neurons or glial cells such
5 as facilitation of glutamate release/NMDA receptor activation and/or inhibition of post-synaptic NMDA receptors → changes in functional activity;
e) interactions with the cyclic adenosine monophosphate/protein kinase A system, the phospholipase C-
10 inositol triphosphate-Ca⁺⁺/diacylglycerol-protein kinase system, the phospholipase A2-arachidonic acid/prostanoids/leukotrienes system → changes in functional activity induced by second messenger systems other than NMDA receptor/Ca⁺⁺/Ca⁺⁺-calmodulin/protein kinase systems; and,
15 f) interactions with other excitatory amino acid receptor subtypes including non-NMDA receptors and metabotropic receptors as well as intracellular events subsequent to the activation of these excitatory amino acid receptor subtypes → changes in functional activity induced by the non-NMDA and metabotropic receptor activation.

20 A substance that blocks the NMDA receptor will effectively prevent all of the foregoing major intracellular sequences of events from taking place. However, even with activation of the NMDA receptor, it is still possible to
25 treat neuropathic pain in accordance with this invention by administering the anticonvulsant and a nontoxic substance that blocks at least one of the foregoing major intracellular sequences of events brought about by activation of the NMDA receptor. Thus, e.g., a substance that interferes
30 with translocation and activation of protein kinase C or with calmodulin induced activation of constitutive nitric

oxide synthase as well as induction of inducible nitric oxide synthase is also useful for the practice of this invention.

Nontoxic substances that block a major intracellular consequence of NMDA receptor activation and are therefore useful in the practice of the invention include inhibitors of protein kinase C, e.g., gangliosides such as ganglioside GM₁ (monosialoganglioside) and ganglioside GT_{1b} (trisialoganglioside); amphipathic long chain bases such as sphingosine, N,N,N-trimethylsphingosine, sphinganine and psychosine; quinolyloxazole-2-ones such as 4-methyl-5-(3-quinoliny)-2-(3H)-oxazolone and phenyl-5-(2-quinoliny)-2-(3H)-oxazolone; 1,4-bis-(amino-hydroxyalkylamino)-anthraquinones such as 1,4-bis-(3-propylamino-2-hydroxypropylamino)-9,10 anthracenedione and 1,4-bis-(3-benzylamino-2-hydroxypropylamino)-9,10 anthracenedione; and, mixtures and pharmaceutically acceptable salts of any of the foregoing.

Additional nontoxic substances that block a major intracellular consequence of NMDA receptor activation and as such are useful in the practice of the invention include inhibitors of calmodulin such as the phenothiazines, in particular, chlorpromazine, chlorpromazine sulfoxide, prochlorperazine dimaleate, perphenazine, trifluoperazine, fluphenazine, fluphenazine enanthate, fluphenazine decanoate, thioridazine, mesoridazine besylate, piperacetazine, acetophenazine dimaleate, carphenazine dimaleate, butaperazine dimaleate and phenothiazine sulfoxide; naphthalenesulfonamides such as N-(6-aminoethyl)-5-chloro-1-naphthalenesulfonamide, N-(6-aminoethyl)-5-chloro-2-naphthalenesulfonamide and N-(6-aminoethyl)-5-

bromo-2-naphthalenesulfonamide; 4-substituted-4H,6H-pyrrolo[1,2-a][4,1] benzoxazepines such as 1,3-dihydro-1-[1-[(4-methyl-4H,6H-pyrrolo[1,2-a][4,1] benzoxazepin-4-yl)methyl]-4-piperidinyl]-2H-benzimidazol-2-one; benzhydryls
5 such as N-[2](diphenylmethylthioethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-benzeneethanamine, N-[2-(bis(4-fluorophenyl)methylthio)-ethyl]-2-(trifluoromethyl)benzeneethanamine and N-[2-(bis(4-fluorophenyl)methylthio)ethyl]-3-(trifluoromethyl)benzeneethanamine; tricyclic antidepressant drugs such as
10 imipramine, 2-chloroimipramine and amitriptyline; penfluridol; haloperidol; pimozide; clozapine; calmidazolin; and, mixtures and pharmaceutically acceptable salts of any of the foregoing.

15 Of the two groups, the NMDA-receptor antagonists are preferred and of these, dextromethorphan is especially preferred due to its wide use in over-the-counter medications where it functions as a cough suppressant.

20 With regard to dosage levels, the anticonvulsant must be present in a neuropathic pain-alleviating amount, e.g., at a level corresponding to the generally recommended adult human dosages for a particular anticonvulsant, and the NMDA receptor blocker or substance that blocks a major intracellular consequence of NMDA activation must be present at a level that potentiates the neuropathic pain-alleviating
25 effectiveness of the anticonvulsant. Specific dosage levels for the anticonvulsants that can be used herein as given, inter alia, in the "Physicians' Desk Reference", 1996 Edition (Medical Economics Data Production Company, Montvale, NJ) as well as in other reference works including
30 Goodman and Gilman's "The Pharmaceutical Basis of Therapeutics" and "Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences" both

of which as referred to above. Given the wide variation in dosage level of the anticonvulsant which depends to a large extent on the specific anticonvulsant being administered, there can similarly be a wide variation in the dosage level 5 of the NMDA receptor blocker or substance that blocks a major intracellular consequence of NMDA receptor activation. These amounts can be determined for a particular drug combination in accordance with this invention employing routine experimental testing. In case of the anticonvulsant 10 phenobarbital and the NMDA receptor blocker dextromethorphan, dosages of from 50 to 300 mg/day of the former coadministered with from 30 to 120 mg/day of the latter will usually provide acceptable results.

While the neuropathic pain-alleviating anti-convulsant and anticonvulsant-potentiating nontoxic NMDA receptor blocker or nontoxic substance that blocks a major intracellular consequence of NMDA receptor activation need not be administered together, they must both be present in the patient at effective levels at the same time. While it 20 is within the scope of the invention to separately administer the anticonvulsant and the NMDA receptor blocker or nontoxic substance that blocks a major intracellular consequence of NMDA receptor activation, as a matter of convenience, it is preferred that these drugs be 25 coadministered in a single dosage form. All modes of administrations are contemplated, e.g., orally, rectally, parenterally, intranasally and topically.

A therapeutic composition containing the anti-convulsant and nontoxic NMDA receptor blocker or nontoxic 30 substance that blocks a major intracellular consequence of NMDA receptor activation will ordinarily be formulated with

one or more pharmaceutically acceptable ingredients in accordance with known and established practice. Thus, the composition can be formulated as a liquid, powder, elixir, injectable solution, etc. Formulations for oral use can be
5 provided as tablets or hard capsules wherein the pharmacologically active ingredients are mixed with an inert solid diluent such as calcium carbonate, calcium phosphate or kaolin, or as soft gelatin capsules wherein the active ingredients are mixed with an oleaginous medium, e.g.,
10 liquid paraffin or olive oil.

Aqueous suspensions can include pharmaceutically acceptable excipients such as suspending agents, e.g., sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, methylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, sodium alginate, polyvinylpyrrolidone, gum tragacanth and gum acacia; dispersing or wetting agents such as naturally occurring phosphatide, e.g., lecithin, or condensation products of an alkylene oxide with fatty acids, e.g., polyoxyethylene stearate, or condensation products of ethylene oxide with long chain aliphatic
15 alcohols, e.g., heptadecaethylene-oxycetanol, or condensation products of ethylene oxide with partial esters derived from fatty acids and a hexitol, e.g., polyoxyethylene sorbitol monoleate or condensation products of ethylene oxide with partial esters derived from fatty acids and hexitol
20 anhydrides, e.g., polyoxyethylene sorbitan monoleate. The aqueous suspensions can also contain one or more preservatives, e.g., ethyl- or n-propyl-p-hydroxy benzoate, one or more coloring agents, one or more flavoring agents and one or more sweetening agents, such as sucrose,
25 saccharin or sodium or calcium cyclamate.

In addition to anticonvulsant and nontoxic NMDA receptor blocker or nontoxic substance that blocks a major intracellular consequence of NMDA receptor activation, the therapeutic composition herein can optionally contain at least one other pharmacologically active substance e.g., a non-narcotic analgesic such as acetaminophen or a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) such as aspirin, diclofenac, diflusinal, etodolac, fenbufen, fenoprofen, flufenisal, flurbiprofen, ibuprofen, indomethacin, ketoprofen, ketorolac, meclofenamic acid, mefenamic acid, nabumetone, naproxen, oxaprozin, phenylbutazone, piroxicam, sulindac, tolmetin, zomepirac, and the like.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A therapeutic composition comprising (a) a neuropathic pain-alleviating amount of at least one anticonvulsant and (b) an anticonvulsant-potentiating amount of at least one nontoxic antagonist for the NMDA receptor or nontoxic substance that blocks a major intracellular consequence of NMDA receptor activation.

2. The therapeutic composition of Claim 1 wherein anticonvulsant (a) is at least one member selected from the group consisting of lamotrigine, gabapentin, valproic acid, topiramate, famotodine, phenobarbital, diphenylhydantoin, phenytoin, mephenytoin, ethotoin, mephobarbital, primidone, carbamazepine, ethosuximide, methsuximide, phensuximide, trimethadione, benzodiazepine, phenacemide, acetazolamide, progabide, clonazepam, divalproex sodium, magnesium sulfate injection, metharbital, paramethadione, phenytoin sodium, valproate sodium, clobazam, sulthiame, dilantin, diphenylan and L-5-hydroxytryptophan.

3. The therapeutic composition of Claim 1 wherein nontoxic NMDA receptor blocker (b) is at least one member selected from the group consisting of dextromethorphan, dextrorphan, amantadine, memantine and pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. The therapeutic composition of Claim 1 wherein (a) and (b) each is present in the same or different sustained release carrier.

5. The therapeutic composition of Claim 1 containing a therapeutically effective amount of at least one other pharmacologically active substance (c).

5 6. The therapeutic composition of Claim 1 containing a therapeutically effective amount of at least one other pharmacologically effective substance (c) selected from the group consisting of acetaminophen and nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug.

10 7. The therapeutic composition of claim 1 wherein anticonvulsant (a) is at least one member selected from the group consisting of lamotrigine, gabapentin, valproic acid, topiramate, famotodine, phenobarbital, diphenylhydantoin, phenytoin, mephenytoin, ethotoin, mephobarbital, primidone, carbamazepine, ethosuximide, methsuximide, phensuximide, trimethadione, benzodiazepine, phenacetamide, acetazolamide, progabide, clonazepam, divalproex sodium, magnesium sulfate injection, metharbital, paramethadione, phenytoin sodium, valproate sodium, clobazam, sulthiame, dilantin, diphenylan and L-5-hydroxytryptophan and nontoxic NMDA receptor blocker (b) is dextromethorphan, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25 8. A method of alleviating neuropathic pain which comprises administering to a mammal exhibiting neuropathic pain (a) a neuropathic pain-alleviating amount of at least one anticonvulsant and (b) an anticonvulsant-potentiating amount of at least one nontoxic antagonist for the NMDA receptor or nontoxic substance that blocks a major

intracellular consequence of NMDA receptor activation with
(a) being administered prior to, with or following the
administration of (b).

5 9. The method of Claim 8 wherein anticonvulsant
(a) is at least one member selected from the group
consisting of lamotrigine, gabapentin, valproic acid,
topiramate, famotodine, phenobarbital, diphenylhydantoin,
phenytoin, mephenytoin, ethotoxin, mephobarbital, primidone,
10 carbamazepine, ethosuximide, methsuximide, phensuximide,
trimethadione, benzodiazepine, phenacetamide, acetazolamide,
progabide, clonazepam, divalproex sodium, magnesium sulfate
injection, metharbital, paramethadione, phenytoin sodium,
valproate sodium, clobazam, sulthiame, dilantin, diphenylan
15 and L-5-hydroxytryptophan.

10 10. The method of Claim 8 wherein nontoxic NMDA
receptor blocker (b) is at least one member selected from
the group consisting of dextromethorphan, dextrorphan,
20 amantadine, memantine and pharmaceutically acceptable salt
thereof.

15 11. The method of Claim 8 wherein (a) and (b) are
coadministered as a sustained release dosage form.

25 12. The method of Claim 8 wherein anticonvulsant
(a) is at least one member selected from the group
consisting of lamotrigine, gabapentin, valproic acid,
topiramate, famotodine, phenobarbital, diphenylhydantoin,
30 phenytoin, mephenytoin, ethotoxin, mephobarbital, primidone,
carbamazepine, ethosuximide, methsuximide, phensuximide,

trimethadione, benzodiazepine, phenacemide, acetazolamide,
progabide, clonazepam, divalproex sodium, magnesium sulfate
injection, metharbital, paramethadione, phenytoin sodium,
valproate sodium, clobazam, sulthiame, dilantin, diphenylan
5 and L-5-hydroxytryptophan and nontoxic NMDA receptor blocker
(b) is at least one member selected from the group
consisting of dextromethorphan, dextrorphan, amantadine,
memantine and pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and
(a) and (b) are coadministered as a single dosage unit.

10

13. The method of claim 8 wherein anticonvulsant
(a) is at least one member selected from the group
consisting of lamotrigine, gabapentin, valproic acid,
topiramate, famotodine, phenobarbital, diphenylhydantoin,
15 phenytoin, mephenytoin, ethotoin, mephobarbital, primidone,
carbamazepine, ethosuximide, methsuximide, phensuximide,
trimethadione, benzodiazepine, phenacemide, acetazolamide,
progabide, clonazepam, divalproex sodium, magnesium sulfate
injection, metharbital, paramethadione, phenytoin sodium,
20 valproate sodium, clobazam, sulthiame, dilantin, diphenylan
and L-5-hydroxytryptophan and nontoxic NMDA receptor blocker
(b) is dextromethorphan, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt
thereof.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int'l Application No
PCT/US 97/14680

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 A61K45/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 6 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 87 01036 A (UNIV NEW YORK) 26 February 1987 see claims 10,13,17 see page 2, line 6-29 ---	1-3,810
A	WO 89 05642 A (FERKANY JOHN W ;PONTECORVO MICHAEL J (US)) 29 June 1989 see abstract ---	1-13
A	US 5 234 929 A (CHELEN WILLIAM) 10 August 1993 see abstract ---	1-13
A	WO 89 05641 A (PONTECORVO MICHAEL J ;FERKANY JOHN W (US)) 29 June 1989 see claims ---	1-13
		-/-

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

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European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Leherte, C

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 459 695 A (MCNEIL PPC INC) 4 December 1991 see abstract see claims 1,2 ---	4,11
A	EP 0 615 749 A (UNIV VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH) 21 September 1994 see abstract -----	1-13

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ALGOS PHARMACEUTICAL CORPORATION [US/US]; Collingwood Plaza, 4900 Route 33, Neptune, NJ 07753 (US).		Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>With amended claims.</i>	
(72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): CARUSO, Frank, S. [US/US]; 2 Bowling Green, Colts Neck, NJ 07722 (US). MINN, Fredrick, L. [US/US]; 601 Midway Lane, Blue Bell, PA 19422 (US). LYLE, John, W. [US/US]; 28 Inlet Terrace, Belmar, NJ 07719 (US).		Date of publication of the amended claims: 26 March 1998 (26.03.98)	
(74) Agents: DILWORTH, Peter, G. et al.; Dilworth & Barrese, 333 Earle Ovington Boulevard, Uniondale, NY 11553 (US).			

(54) Title: ANTICONVULSANT CONTAINING COMPOSITION FOR TREATING NEUROPATHIC PAIN

(57) Abstract

Composition for alleviating neuropathic pain which a neuropathic pain-alleviating amount of an anticonvulsant is combined with an anticonvulsant-potentiating amount of a nontoxic antagonist, or blocker, for the N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor or nontoxic substance that blocks a major intracellular consequence of NMDA receptor activation.

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AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 10 February 1998 (10.02.98);
new claims 14-19 added; remaining claims unchanged (2 pages)]

trimethadione, benzodiazepine, phenacemide, acetazolamide,
progabide, clonazepam, divalproex sodium, magnesium sulfate
injection, metharbital, paramethadione, phenytoin sodium,
valproate sodium, clobazam, sulthiame, dilantin, diphenylan
5 and L-5-hydroxytryptophan and nontoxic NMDA receptor blocker
(b) is at least one member selected from the group
consisting of dextromethorphan, dextrorphan, amantadine,
memantine and pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and
(a) and (b) are coadministered as a single dosage unit.

10 13. The method of claim 8 wherein anticonvulsant
(a) is at least one member selected from the group
consisting of lamotrigine, gabapentin, valproic acid,
topiramate, famotodine, phenobarbital, diphenylhydantoin,
phenytoin, mephenytoin, ethotoin, mephobarbital, primidone,
15 carbamazepine, ethosuximide, methsuximide, phensuximide,
trimethadione, benzodiazepine, phenacemide, acetazolamide,
progabide, clonazepam, divalproex sodium, magnesium sulfate
injection, metharbital, paramethadione, phenytoin sodium,
valproate sodium, clobazam, sulthiame, dilantin, diphenylan
20 and L-5-hydroxytryptophan and nontoxic NMDA receptor blocker
(b) is dextromethorphan, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt
thereof.

14. The therapeutic composition of Claim 1
further comprising (c) an analgesic.

25 15. The therapeutic composition of Claim 14
wherein the analgesic is a non-narcotic analgesic.

16. The therapeutic composition of Claim 15 wherein the non-narcotic analgesic is at least one member selected from the group consisting of acetaminophen, aspirin, diclofenac, diflusinal, etodolac, fenbufen, 5 fenoprofen, flufenisal, flurbiprofen, ibuprofen, indomethacin, ketoprofen, ketorolac, meclofenamic acid, mefenamic acid, nabumetone, naproxen, oxaprozin, phenylbutazone, piroxicam, sulindac, tolmetin and zomepirac.

17. The method of Claim 8 further 10 comprising (c) an analgesic.

18. The method of Claim 17 wherein the analgesic is a non-narcotic analgesic.

19. The method of Claim 18 wherein the non-narcotic analgesic is at least one member selected from the 15 group consisting of ace taminophen, aspirin, diclofenac, diflusinal, etodolac, fenbufen, fenoprofen, flufenisal, flurbiprofen, ibuprofen, indomethacin, ketoprofen, ketorolac, meclofenamic acid, mefenamic acid, nabumetone, naproxen, oxaprozin, phenylbutazone, piroxicam, sulindac, 20 tolmetin and zomepirac.